

In The Specification:

On page 1 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

The present invention concerns a climate control device for a passenger compartment of a motor vehicle ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~. In particular it concerns a climate control device having a base layer, a cover layer that faces a passenger and is arranged to at least partially overlap the base layer, and an intermediate layer arranged between the base layer and cover layer and including at least one support element holding the base layer and cover layer apart from one another to maintain a hollow space between them. Such climate control elements can be used, in particular, in cushion or trim elements of a motor vehicle interior and more particularly of a vehicle seat.

On page 1 of the English language translation of the specification, please add the following new heading before the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Background

Known from US 1,541,213 B and from US 2,922,466 B are seat cushions in which a plurality of coils arranged next to one another in a single plane form a spacer layer between the seat and the user. This is intended to prevent excessive sweating on the part of the user. No actual control of moisture transport is provided herein.

On page 1 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Known from US 2,992,604 B is a seat cushion that can be separated from the seat in which air is moved by a fan and blown into a coil pad resting on the seat. In colder weather, especially in winter, however, such cushions must ~~however~~ be removed to make it possible to activate an existing seat heater. Otherwise, the seat cushion would screen the passenger from the heat produced by the seat heater to an excessive degree, thus rendering the heater largely ineffective.

On page 2 of the English language translation of the specification, please add the following new heading before the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Summary of the Invention

It is considered an object of the present invention to create alternative devices for climate control of a vehicle interior.

On page 2 of the English language translation of the specification, please delete the second full paragraph of the specification:

~~This object is attained with the subject matter of the independent claim. Features of advantageous refinements of the invention are found in the dependent claims.~~

On page 2 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

A climate control device for a passenger compartment of a motor vehicle according to the invention ~~with the features of claim 1~~ provides that a base layer, a cover layer that faces a passenger and is arranged to at least partially overlap the base layer, and an intermediate layer are provided, which intermediate layer is arranged between the base layer and the cover layer. The intermediate layer has at least one support element in the form of a spiral spring that holds the base layer and the cover layer apart from one another in order to maintain a hollow space between them, and in order to transmit mechanical loads between the base layer and cover layer. Moreover, the climate control device has at least one electrical conductor, which is arranged in the hollow space.

On page 4 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, the support element can have a spring, in particular preferably a spring coiled in a spiral or meandering shape, which can in particular ~~consist of~~ comprise or be made from a band-shaped plastic material. Provision can be made that the

support element 14 is made of a firm but flexible material. The support element preferably includes multiple springs on a supporting layer that carries them, a spacer textile with a large air volume that is kept open, a foam with a surface structure that in particular has a napped profile and/or a rubberized hair mat with bristles or made from or with, for example, a nonwoven material.

On page 6 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

A textile layer, in particular, ~~comes into consideration as~~ can be considered for the base layer. This textile layer of the base layer can in particular have a nonwoven mat, a foam and/or a film. The base layer is preferably thick enough to prevent support elements and/or functional elements from showing through. Furthermore, the base layer can at least in part be translucent or transparent. Moreover, it can be advantageous if the base layer is impermeable to water vapor and water-resistant. The base layer can, for example, be composed of the cushion core of the motor vehicle seat, a region of the intermediate layer that has increased density, a seat cover, and/or a planar heating element.

On page 6 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

A textile layer, in particular, ~~comes into consideration as~~ can also be considered the cover layer. This textile layer of the ~~base~~ cover layer can in particular have a nonwoven mat, a foam and/or a film. The cover layer is preferably thick enough to prevent support elements and/or functional elements from showing through. Furthermore, the cover layer can at least in part be translucent or transparent. Moreover, it can be advantageous if the cover layer is impermeable to water vapor and water-resistant. The cover layer can, for example, be composed of the cushion core of the motor vehicle seat, a region of the intermediate layer that has increased density, a seat cover, and/or a planar heating element.

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please add the following new heading before the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Brief Description Of The Drawings

The invention is described in detail below on the basis of preferred example embodiments with reference to the attached drawings. These show:

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 1 shows a schematic, perspective view of a cushion core[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 2 shows another schematic, perspective view of a cushion core[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 3 shows a schematic, perspective view to illustrate various variants of a base layer[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fifth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 4 shows a schematic, perspective view of a cushion of a motor vehicle seat[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the sixth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 5 shows a cross-sectional view of the motor vehicle seat from Fig. 4[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the seventh full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 6 shows a cross-sectional view of a first structural variant of the cushion core[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the eighth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 7 shows a cross-sectional view of an alternative structural variant of the cushion core[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the ninth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 8 shows a cross-sectional view of another structural variant of the cushion core[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the tenth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 9 shows a perspective view of a first embodiment of a support element[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the eleventh full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 10 shows a perspective view of another embodiment of a support element[[,]].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the twelfth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 11 shows a schematic view of a supporting layer with incorporated support elements[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 12 shows a structural variant of an intermediate layer with recessed and raised surface regions[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 13 shows a design for a cover layer with surface structure applied thereto[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 14 shows a first variant of a motor vehicle seat with ventilating device arranged thereon[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 15 shows an alternative variant of a ventilating device joined to the intermediate layer[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fifth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 16 shows a schematic representation illustrating an air duct[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the sixth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 17 shows another representation of a motor vehicle seat with heating element applied to its upper side[.,,].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the seventh full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Figs. 18 – 21 show various representations of coupling the ventilating device to the intermediate layer[.,,].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the eighth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Figs. 22 and 23 show alternative structural variations of the base layer with support elements or conductive elements applied thereto[.,,].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the ninth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 24 shows a schematic cross-sectional representation to illustrate an alternative for coupling the ventilating device to the intermediate layer, and.

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the tenth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 25 shows a schematic cross-sectional representation of a motor vehicle seat with an inventive device.

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the eleventh full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 26 shows another embodiment of the invention in perspective view[[:]].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the twelfth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 27 shows an electrical equivalent schematic of the arrangement from Fig. 26[[:]].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the thirteenth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 28 shows a cross-section through a seat with an arrangement from Fig. 26[[:]].

On page 13 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 29 shows a longitudinal section through a seat with details of attachment of the ventilating device.

On page 13 of the English language translation of the specification, please add the following new heading before the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Detailed Description

Fig. 1 shows the basic structure of a climate control device according to the invention in schematic, perspective view, using the example of a cushion. The cushion shown as the composite component comprises a bottom cushion core 22 and a base layer 8 placed thereon and joined to the cushion core, which base layer is preferably designed as a layer 76 that is impermeable to liquids. Located on the relatively thin base layer 8

is an intermediate layer 10 that is applied thereto and covered with a cover layer 12. The same situation, but without the cover layer 12, is shown once again in Fig. 2.

On page 13 and continuing on page 14 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

The schematic perspective view in Fig. 3 shows different design possibilities for the base layer 8, which can have multiple strips arranged adjacent to one another. Located above the base layer 8 is the intermediate layer 10. A first strip has functional elements 18, which can take the form of fillers 48, for example. A second strip adjacent thereto encompasses a support element 14 incorporated therein, which can take the form, for example, of a coil spring or the like. In addition, a functional element 18 in the form of a sensor 40 and/or an actuator 46 can be applied to this center section of the base layer 8. The sensor 40 can be embodied as a temperature sensor, for example. The third strip has a conducting device 42 in the form of a heating wire or the like, as well as a support element 14 extending in a meandering shape. The cover layer 12 over this is merely indicated. Thus, the functional elements 18 can be arranged in the space between the base layer 8, the upper layer 12 and the support element 14.

On page 21 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

The schematic top view in Fig. 23 illustrates a heating conductor 44 that is affixed to the base layer 8 in an intermediate space 90 in the intermediate layer. The heating conductor is laid helically on the base layer 8. In this example embodiment, a number or a plurality of elongated intermediate spaces 88, 88', which are parallel to one another, are formed by the support elements 14. A conducting device 42 in the form of an insulated heating conductor 44 extends in the intermediate spaces 88, 88'. The heating conductor 44 is affixed to the base layer 8 in a transition 92 from one intermediate space 88 to the other intermediate space 88'. In the example embodiment shown, this attachment is accomplished by means of strips 94 of adhesive material that are arranged perpendicular to the intermediate spaces 88, 88'. However, provision may also be made for the strips 94 to be embodied as electrodes.